GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2557
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2003
EXPORT TO AFRICA AND LATIN AMERICA
VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made efforts to increase exports to Africa and Latin America;

(b) if so, the result thereof during the last three years;

(c) the proposal mooted in that regard for 2003-04; and

(d) the details of further plan prepared by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last three years, India`s exports to Africa have increased to US$ 2860.84 millions in 2001-02 from US$ 1895.93 million in 1999-2000 registering a growth of 50.89%. During the same period, India`s exports to Latin America have increased to US$ 1455.71 Millions in 2001-02 from US$ 652.46 million in 1999-2000 registering a growth of 123%.

(c) & (d) For the year 2003-04, the Focus Africa programme has been extended to all remaining 11 countries of the Sub-Saharan Africa having India`s Diplomatic Missions and to six countries of North Africa namely, Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia. The Government has mooted a proposal for extension of Focus Latin America programme expiring on 31.3.2003.Under these Focus Programmes for Latin America and Africa, planned major export promotion activities, inter-alia, include dissemination of information on export potential of products in those countries, sending trade delegations, organising specialised exhibitions, participation in major fairs/exhibitions and partly subsidising individual exporter`s eligible marketing promotional activities and setting up of offices and warehouses in Latin America and Africa.